

**Minutes**  
**City of Virginia Beach**  
**Electoral Board**  
**Meeting of June 12, 2019**

The Virginia Beach Electoral Board Meeting was called to order by D.A. Ablowich, Chairman at 9:00 AM, Wednesday, June 12, 2019, in Building 14, Municipal Center, Virginia Beach, with other Electoral Board members present: Lauralee Grim, Vice Chairman and Tim Barrow, Secretary. Also present was Donna Patterson, Director of Elections/General Registrar, These minutes constitute the account of proceedings required by the Code of Virginia §24.2-107, §2.2-3707 and are prepared in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order 11<sup>th</sup> Edition.

A motion by L. Grim to approve the agenda for this meeting was properly seconded and approved by voice vote.

A motion by T. Barrow to approve the minutes of the previous Board meeting held on April 23, 2019 was properly seconded and approved by voice vote.

The purpose of this meeting is the canvass of the vote in the Democratic and Republican Party Primary Elections of June 11, 2019 in accordance with the Code of Virginia §24.2-671.

The following observers were present: None.

The canvass was recessed at 9:10 AM for the purpose of processing the provisional ballots. No persons offering a provisional ballot were present. No observers representing candidates were present. The Electoral Board and General Registrar began the provisional ballot meeting with the provisional ballots submitted for the Primary Election. Registrar's staff assisting in the process was S. Stanton and C. Lewis. Also present was P. Walizer, Clerk of the Circuit Court Staff. The provisional ballot logs attached to each precinct's Envelope 1A were removed from so that investigations that set forth the reasons for offering the provisional ballots could begin. At 9:45 AM it had been determined that 11 provisional ballots, including 2 ID Only ballots, had been submitted for the Republican Party Primary Election.

The Board continued with the removal of provisional logs from the Envelope 1A from each precinct containing the provisional ballot log submitted in the Democratic Party Primary Election. At 10:06 AM, it had been determined that 12 provisional ballots, including 3 ID Only ballots, had been submitted for the Democratic Party Primary Election.

Research of the acceptability of each provisional ballot was begun.

At 10:10 AM a brief recess was begun.

At 10:22 AM the Board reconvened to continue with other items on the agenda.

Appointment of the General Registrar/Director of Elections COV §24.2-110

The Board discussed the re-appointment of D. Patterson as General Registrar for the City of Virginia Beach. Upon a motion by T. Barrow and properly seconded, D. Patterson was appointed for a four year term as General Registrar beginning on July 1, 2019.

Outside Poll Procedure

Questions from officers of election during the May 2019 training sessions identified a need to re-emphasize outside (curbside) voting procedures. The officer of election providing the curbside voting service is to accept the marked ballot from the voter, hand the "I Voted" sticker to the voter, and direct the voter to leave. The ballot has been cast in accordance with §24.2-649, and is consistent with the procedure outlined in the "Election Day Guide for Officers of Election", page 4 (REV.4/24/2019). The officer of election then returns to the polling location and deposits the marked ballot into the DS200. Motion by T. Barrow to accept this procedure was properly seconded and approved by voice vote. Officers of Election who would like to offer an alternative procedure are invited to present their proposals before the Electoral Board.

Court-Ordered Redistricting – AG Letter Status

The 2<sup>nd</sup> District Court decision of March resulted in splitting two legislative districts with Norfolk and Chesapeake. The Board submitted a letter to the Attorney General of Virginia seeking the assistance of his office to require legislative district lines coincide with city boundary lines instead of census tracts. No response or acknowledgement of receipt of our letter of April 30, 2019, subject "Bethune-Hill v. Virginia State Board of Elections" to the Attorney General has been received.

In-Person Absentee (Satellite).

C. Lewis was present to discuss arrangements for satellite voting locations for the November 2019 General Election. Bayside and Great Neck Recreation Centers will be used and the annex at Seatack Recreation Center. The City Treasurer's Office at Fairfield Shopping Center in Kempsville will be used as another location. If the Office of the General Registrar is moved prior to the November General Election, the Courthouse Fire Station will be used. If the Registrars Office will remain in Building 14, then use of Bow Creek Recreation Center will be considered. C. Lewis was requested to pursue use of the Bow Creek site. Staffing five satellite voting centers will provide a challenge for staffing and budgeting, but is achievable.

D. Patterson has been in discussions with the Director of Parks and Recreation and the City Attorney to establish a consistent city-wide policy on placement of candidate signs on city property during the time of in-person absentee voting.

Election Center Status

D. Patterson is waiting on a call from B. Shockley pertaining to the lease contract. Because of the incident that occurred on May 31, relocation of Building 2 personnel has been a priority for B. Shockley's office. We are still holding to a mid-August date to move.

Training Session for Campaign Workers

Training or informing candidate volunteers was initially brought to D. Patterson prior to the June Primaries. Observation and reports of conduct of some poll workers during the primary elections highlighted a lack of understanding on the part of some of these poll workers. Methods to train candidates' volunteers working the polls on Election Day were discussed. The consensus was that information such as the "Dos and Don'ts for Campaigners and Authorized Representatives", ELECT-604, Rev. 7/2017 should be made available through the General Registrar's web page, and this should be brought to the attention of the political parties and the candidates.

Scheduled Student Page Program meeting with VBCPS Administration

D. Patterson is scheduled to meet on June 26 with Virginia Beach City Public Schools administrators to discuss the November General Election Student Page Program. The intent is to ensure a greater representation from high schools who have not participated in past elections.

Candidate Campaign Finance

C. Shortridge joined the Board for a discussion of candidates who were in non-compliance with campaign finance reporting requirements. Three of thirteen candidates have some problem that requires correction. One statement of organization was discussed because the address provided in the document was inconsistent with the office sought. D. Patterson will send a letter to the candidate requesting clarification.

At 11:25 PM the meeting was recessed until 12:30 PM.

The canvass reconvened at 12:30 PM in the Building 14 Conference Room to canvass the votes cast at each precinct. Also present was P. Walizer and other Clerk of the Court staff. The following observers present: None.

The following canvass officials were sworn in by D. Patterson: Pat Thomas, Mary Ann Thomas, Gwen Holmes, Gwen Mulholland, Joseph Bernard, and Raymond Newlon. Other canvass team members from the office of the General Registrar were: Christina White, Annick Koumal, and Stephanie Wiggins. The canvass reviewed the documentation provided from each precinct. Three teams conducting the canvass were: Team #1: Al Ablowich, C. White, P. Thomas and R. Newlon; Team #2, L. Grim, S. Wiggins, J. Bernard and G. Mulholland; Team #3: T. Barrow, A. Koumal, M. Thomas and G. Holmes. The three teams then began to canvass the results of the 100 Virginia Beach precincts participating in the Democratic and Republican Party Primary Elections.

## Minutes – Electoral Board Meeting of June 12, 2019

At 3:22 PM Wednesday, June 12, the teams working with the Electoral Board on the canvass of the 100 precincts, such work now having been completed, were dismissed with thanks and appreciation.

The meeting continued with the canvass of the Central Absentee Precinct (CAP). In addition to the Electoral Board members, L. Kane from the General Registrar's staff and D. Patterson were present. No observers were present.

In the Democratic Party Primary Election, a total of 195 absentee ballots were recorded, consisting of 75 in-person and 120 mail ballots. These numbers included 3 hand counted ballots. In the Republican Party Primary Election, a total of 397 absentee ballots were recorded, consisting of 245 in-person and 152 mail ballots. These numbers included 4 hand counted ballots. The CAP canvass was completed at 3:55 PM.

The meeting continues with a review of the incident reports submitted by chief officers of election.

At 5:18 PM the meeting was recessed until 11:00 AM, Friday, June 14, 2019.

The canvass reconvened on Friday, June 14, 2019 at 11:00 AM for the purpose of completing the provisional ballots processing and preparation of the Abstract of Votes. Present were A. Ablowich, L. Grim, and T. Barrow, Electoral Board; D. Patterson, Director of Elections/General Registrar; C. Lewis, Deputy Registrar, S. Wiggins and J. Lawrence, Registrar's staff; and P. Walizer, Clerk of the Circuit Court staff. No candidate observers were present.

Of the total of 12 provisional votes offered on Election Day in the Democratic Party Primary Election, 3 were found to be properly registered to vote, including 2 ID Only. The envelopes were opened and the ballot set aside for subsequent counting.

Of the total of 11 provisional votes offered on Election Day in the Republican Party Primary Election, 4 were found to be properly registered to vote, including one ID Only. The envelopes were opened and the ballot set aside for subsequent counting.

After opening the carrier envelopes, the paper ballots were counted using the DS200 optical scanner, and the results tabulated.

The names have been recorded in the applicable precinct poll book, their vote counted, and included in the election results. The remaining 9 Democratic Party Primary voters and 7 Republican Party voters were found to be disqualified, and therefore deemed ineligible to vote a provisional ballot. These voters will be notified as to why they were not qualified to vote in these Virginia Beach primary elections.

The Statement of Results was then completed for the Democratic and Republican Party primary elections.

The processing for the provisional ballots was completed at 12:30 PM and the provisional vote count entered into VERIS.

While waiting for the completion of the Abstract of Votes, the Board continued with the meeting agenda. There was a general discussion of polling location and possible changes.

Homestead (0052) Precinct may require a new location. D. Patterson will follow-up to determine the continued availability of this polling location. Lighting problems in

Minutes – Electoral Board Meeting of June 12, 2019

Linkhorn (0004) and Lynnhaven (0049) require a temporary solution for Election Day. Consideration should be given to changing Redwing (0030) and Chimney Hill (0080) back to their previous locations.

The Abstract of Votes was completed, signed, and copies prepared.

The next regular meeting of this board will be on Monday, July 15 at 10:00 AM. The primary purpose will be to review the General Registrar/Director of Election annual performance.

Having completed its work, the board meeting was adjourned at 3:47 PM June 14, 2019.



D.A. Ablowich, Chairman



Lauralee Grim, Vice Chairman



Timothy E. Barrow, Secretary